

Disciples Christian Church *Spreading the Word*

www.dcchamilton.org

December 2019



Merry Christmas

OUTREACH

Chosen

Starting this month, we will be serving meals at Chosen only one evening a month. The second Thursday of the month will be our night. So, in December that will be Thursday, December 12th. See the Sign-up Sheet on the board. If you are bringing salad ingredients, please note exactly what you will be bringing.

Over the past several months, while we were serving twice a month, when the sign-up sheet wasn't filled, Lynn took on the responsibility of filling in wherever needed. This was a big job that took a lot of time and effort on her part. A big THANK-YOU to Lynn for all she has done. In the future, she will not be taking on this responsibility.

As we transition to once month, Phyllis will continue to be responsible for the menu and posting the sign-up sheet. But, no one has volunteered to fill in the "holes" when that sheet doesn't get filled. So, we are asking that everyone do their part so that we can continue this outreach ministry. If you are unable to go to Chosen to serve, please ask someone on the sign-up sheet to take the items you've purchased. Please also keep in mind that we have money on our budget to help pay for the food you purchase if it's more than you want to donate. Just give your receipts to Diane.

Hopefully, we can continue this very valuable ministry for several years to come!

Toiletry Pantry

Our next Toiletry Pantry will be Wednesday, December 4 from 5:00-6:30. Please arrive around 4:45 if you are helping. Thanks to all who came last month to help walk people through the pantry!

Special Offering – Christmas

The Christmas Special Offering will be collected December 15th and 22nd.



Our finest gifts support the work of regional ministries this Christmas. Your regional ministry works to:

- Connect congregations to each other
- Foster faith development
- Gather Disciples in camps, conferences, and assemblies
- Nurture the development of a new generation of pastors
- Assist churches in calling new ministers
- Interpret the global mission of the Church
- Represent the Church in ecumenical gatherings
- Counsel and pray with those who are troubled of spirit
- Lead the Church to address racism
- Inspire leaders to experiment and create
- Witness to the power of God to make things new

Your gift to the Christmas Offering supports the work of the Ohio Region, supporting the life of our church. Thank you for providing your finest gift.

Miss Betty's Angels

Our Christmas Outreach Project will be to provide gifts to the children's ministry at the Trailer Park down the street. Please see the sign-up list on the board. If you can't purchase a gift yourself, consider bringing gifts of candy to share, or donating money for this project. The gifts should range between \$5.00 - \$10.00 (so all get similar sized gifts) and should be brought to the church, unwrapped, by December 15th. Be sure to include a note of the age and gender you bought the gift for. Gifts will be delivered to Miss Betty on December 17th.

EDUCATION & FELLOWSHIP

Disciples Study

Due to the cancellation of the October 29th class, the Disciples Study will continue on Tuesdays at 1:00 through December 3rd. The schedule for the remaining Tuesdays is below:

12/3/2019 Chapter 10: Being Disciples in the 21st Century

Thanksgiving Dinner

Thanks to all who participated in our All-Church Thanksgiving Dinner on November 24th after Worship. The food and fellowship were great!



Fourth Sunday Foodies

On the fourth Sunday of each month everyone is invited to go out to eat for lunch at a pre-selected restaurant following worship. The restaurant choice each month is made from a random draw of our suggestions. This month, we'll be going to Bravo Cucina Italiana at the Streets of West Chester (near Union Center and I-75) on December 22nd. The address is 9436 Water Front Dr. West Chester Twp., OH 45069.

Donut Sunday

The Men's Group sponsored a Donut Sunday on November 3rd. Yummy donuts were enjoyed by all who attended.



Men's Group



The Men's Group wrapped up the year with a Movie Night as way of saying "Thank You" for all of your support given toward our fundraisers for the Box Fan Ministry this year. **You are all a Great Congregation.**

Followed by last month's Doughnut Sunday, which we hope everyone

appreciated and it serves as a good normal service. Thanks for the great and the time with the fall season The Men's Group will be taking



fellowship outside of our Kelly's Doughnut again colors.

buckets of holiday sweets

and treats on Tuesday – December 10th at 2:00 PM. We will visit Marie and Donny, Will and Lois, followed by dinner after we have completed our visits. If you are interested in joining us, please contact either John Pendergest or Terry White.

We are asking the men's help to enlarge the group. We understand that things do come up, but we hope that you will make it a regular event and help out with the projects and fellowship event that will take place throughout the year.

Hoping that those that were not able to attend will join us on Tuesday - December 10th at 2:00 PM, place to meet TBA, which will be our next Men's Group meeting and will be a time of fun and fellowship.

Blessings to all! Next meeting will be Tuesday - December 10th at 2:00 PM.



Care Ministry

SERVICE

The Care Ministry Team with the help of Reverend Bonnie and Pastor John held a celebration of Service at our church on Sunday – November 24th.

This celebration of the Faithful Service was awarded to Phyllis Hurst for her longtime service to the church in many facets.

Phyllis is an awesome woman and is always willing to help out, no matter what circumstances. As I said, Phyllis is so good that she has become the honorary Men's Group member for all her help with their events at the church. Phyllis daughter Lori both become honorary members, the apple doesn't fall far from the tree. Phyllis is a leader and a teacher – Great SERVICE!!!!



CAREGIVING

A couple of good qualities of a caregiver are being:

The Good Listener describes the healing power of listening and Provides insightful guidance for developing good listening skills.

The Promise of Hope offers a message of encouragement to Those who are struggling with life's difficulties.

Future Care Ministry Plans

The Care Ministry Team is working on putting a workshop on one of the follow topics from the 3rd Thirty program. Keep watching and listening to find out what and where.

For All the After's and More! Whatever the need. We are Here for You.
Everyone needs someone to lean on sometimes. We're here, even if it's just an ear to listen – We Care!!!
Confidential Christian Caregiving.
Contact John P



Your Care Ministry Team

The Care Ministry is Here for You!!



WORSHIP

Worship Leader Schedule

Dec. 1	Jill White	829-5690	Jan. 5	Jan Richards	777-7436
8	Cindy Williams	680-5767	12	Terry White	829-5690
15	Diane Kinner	317-3474	19	Pete Ayers	777-8530
22	Terry White	829-5690	26	Jana Mullins	288-0308
29	Pete Ayers	777-8530			

Advent

Memorial Sunday will be December 8th.

We'll have a Christmas Breakfast on December 15th.starting at 10:00 in the Fellowship Hall.

Our Christmas Eve Service will be December 24th at 7:00 pm.



PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

We live in a world of constant movement and interaction with technology. For good or bad, I have found myself going back to a game called, "Woody" on my cell phone to decompress. The concept of the game is a puzzle filled with pieces that you must align in straight lines to remove them from the playing surface and continue on. No matter how much I try it doesn't take too long for me to mess up the board and run out of places to place pieces, thus the game is over. Our lives are much like this when we try to manage everything all on our own. When we label everything a puzzle piece and try to keep them smoothly flowing on to the next, the inevitable happens. In our lives, we must learn to rely on God for our strength and support, especially when trying to organize our lives in the right manner. Whether it is a game

that reminds you of necessary connection to God or a scripture reading, may you come closer to God in this season.

Blessings,

Bonnie

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

Nov 2019 Financial Report

Simplified Report – Everything is going as planned. \$4,000 was removed from investments in November to help cover the budget.

Checking Account Balance: \$ 3,078.19

Investment Account Balance (DCEF): \$271,913.62

November Income (Offerings): \$ 4,487.06 actual, \$ 5,885.67 adjusted

November Expenses/Outreach: \$ 7,033.45 actual, \$ 7,266.45 adjusted

* Adjusted takes into consideration early offerings and the amount from investments in the budget and pro-rates these throughout the year. For expenses the insurance cost expense is pro-rated throughout the year and unusual, unplanned expenses may be excluded as noted below. This provides a better month - to - month picture of how we're doing than the actual numbers. There were no unusual expenses or income in November.

At the Congregational Meeting on November, 17th, the 2020 budget was discussed and passed. If you missed the meeting, and would like a copy of the budget, see Diane. There is one thing I forgot to discuss at the meeting before we took the vote. We have allocated \$3,000 under Capital Improvements to have the parking lot resealed and restriped in 2020. At this point, we have only one estimate, for \$4,500. We will get more estimates before the work is done, but, if this ends up being the company we use, our plan is to use \$3,000 from the budget and to make up the rest via a fundraiser. We will be asking people contribute to “sponsor” a parking spot. (Just so there's no confusion – we're not “selling” parking spots. You won't have an assigned spot when this is all over.)

Thanks to Jacquie

Feeling chilly during worship services? Thanks to Jacquie Clingan, we now have a supply of blankets/throws for anyone to use. Feel free to pick one up during services!



A Minute with Minister John

Tis the Season

We just celebrated Thanksgiving and now we are entering the season of Advent as we prepare for the coming of the Christ Child. As this has been the year of reminding you to be in prayer and that prayer can be a simple conversation with God. I pray that you have a Blessed Christmas and a Very Happy New Year and that you live the true celebration, excitement and reason for the season!

Do you Pray?

What is a prayer?

Prayer doesn't just happen when we kneel or put our hands together and focus and expect things from God.

Thinking positive and wishing good for others is a prayer.

When you hug a friend, that's prayer.

When you cook something to nourish family and friends, you are praying.

When we send off our near and dear ones and say, "Drive safely" or "Be safe", that's a prayer.

When you are helping someone in need by giving your time and energy, you are praying.

When you forgive someone from your heart, you are praying.

Prayer is a vibration, a feeling, a thought

Prayer is the voice of love, friendship, genuine relationships.

Prayer is an expression of your silent being.

"Keep praying always."

Anonymous

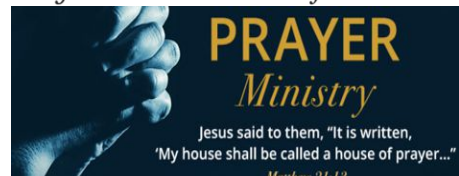
The Prayer Stool - A prayer by Bishop Graham Kings.

I leave aside my shoes, my ambitions;
undo my watch, my timetable;
Take off my glasses, my views;
unclip my pen, my work;
put down my keys, my security;
to be alone with you, the only true God.

After being with you,
I take up my shoes to walk in your ways;
strap on my watch to live in your time;
put on my glasses to look at your world;
clip on my pen to write up your thoughts;
pick up my keys to open your doors.

Barbara J. Winters wrote – “When you come to the end of all the light that you know and you are about to step into the darkness of the unknown, Faith is knowing one of two things will happen – There will be something solid to step onto, or you will be taught how to fly. – As I said, I am blessed.

Prayer - The Foundation of the Church



Blessings!

John Pendergest, Commissioned Minister/Pastor

BIRTHDAYS

December		January	
Diane Kinner	8	Lynn Adams	6
Linda Ashbrook	14	Beverly Schmidt	11
John Baughman	14	Kim Vangen	13
Lily Goodwin	21	Todd Richards	15
Jasmine Shanholtzer	26	Marie Garnett	25
Ellis Ittel	29	Debbie Ittel	28

DECEMBER CALENDAR

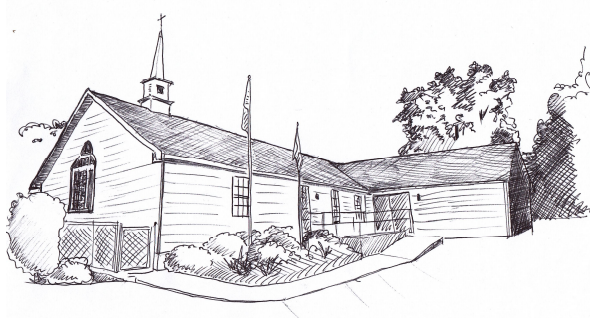
Dec 1	10:45 am	Worship – 1 st Sunday of Advent - Hope
Dec 3	1:30 pm	Disciples Study (Last session)
Dec 4	5:00 pm	Toiletry Pantry (arrive at 4:45)
Dec 8	10:45 am	Worship (Memorial Tree Sunday) – 2 nd Sunday of Advent - Peace
Dec 9	12:00 pm	District Clergy Meeting (Carthage)
Dec 10	2:00 pm	Men's Group – To visit Shut-In's - Place to Meet TBA
Dec 12	5:30 pm	Serve at Chosen
Dec 15	10:00 am	Christmas Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)
	10:45 am	Worship – 3 rd Sunday of Advent - Joy
		Gifts for Miss Betty's Angels Due
Dec 22	10:45 am	Worship – 4 th Sunday of Advent - Love
	12:15 pm	Fourth Sunday Foodies – Bravo Cucina Italiana
Dec 24	7:00 pm	Christmas Eve Service
Dec 25		<i>Merry Christmas!</i>
Dec 25-31		Bonnie on Vacation – Church Office Closed
Dec 29	10:45 am	Worship – Guest Speaker Carol Oetzel
Dec 30	10:00 am	Newsletter Deadline

Note: Praise Team meets at 9:30 am and Choir meets at 10:15 on Sundays.

The church will be used for Recitals and a Birthday Party on December 8 at 3:00 pm, December 15 at 4:00 pm and December 21 at 1:00 pm.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Jill White, John Pendergest, Frankie Ittel, Rocio Jimenez, Will Bennett, Ellis Ittel, Gloria Bloomer, Jon White, Gerald Brown, (Father of Jeri Pendergest), Jennifer (Niece of John Pendergest), Larry and Donna (Friend of Jana and Mike Mullins), Rocio Jimenez's Sister (Silvia), Daughter, Niece and Mother



Disciples Christian Church
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